

The above objects of the present invention have been achieved by an ink-jet [printing] recording sheet which comprises a support and at least one ink-receptive layer provided on the support, wherein at least one of the ink-receptive layer contains silica fine particles having an average primary particle diameter of 20 nm or less and at least one water-soluble polyvalent metal compound.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 6 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 15 and 16 as follows (see the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the below claims):

Claim 1. (Twice Amended) An ink-jet recording sheet which comprises a water resistant support and at least one ink-receptive layer provided on the support, wherein at least one of the ink-receptive layer contains fumed silica fine particles having an average primary particle diameter of 20 nm or less in an amount of 8 g/m² or more, a hydrophilic binder in an amount of 50% by weight or less based on the amount of the fumed silica and at least one water-soluble polyvalent metal compound.

Claim 2. (Twice Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble polyvalent metal compound is selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble aluminum compound and a water-soluble compound containing an element selected from the group consisting of titanium and zirconium.

Claim 4. (Twice Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 2, wherein the water-soluble aluminum compound is polyaluminum hydroxychloride.

Claim 7. (Twice Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein the average primary particle diameter of the fumed silica is 20 nm or less and a specific surface area measured by the BET method is 200 m²/g or more.

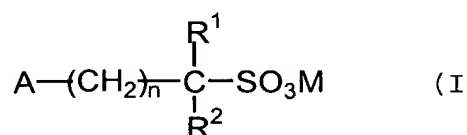
Claim 8. (Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 7, wherein the ink-receptive layer contains the fumed silica in an amount of 10 g/m² or more and a hydrophilic binder in an amount of 10 to 30 % by weight based on the amount of the fumed silica.

Claim 9. (Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein a pH of a surface of the ink-receptive layer is 3 to 5.

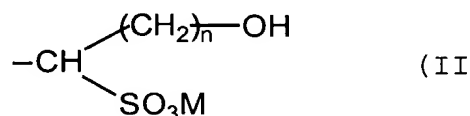
Claim 10. (Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein the ink-receptive layer contains polyvinyl alcohol as a hydrophilic binder and further contains a water-soluble plasticizer of the polyvinyl alcohol.

Claim 11. (Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 10, wherein the water-soluble plasticizer is urea or glycerin.

Claim 12. (Twice Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein the ink-receptive layer contains at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a nitrite, a sulfite, a bisulfite, a phosphite, a thiosulfate and a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein A represents a hydroxyl group or an amino group which may be substituted by an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group; R¹ and R² are combined to form a 5- or 6-membered ring with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, or one of which represents a hydrogen atom and the other represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 17 carbon atoms, an aryl group which may be substituted by at least one of a hydroxyl group or -SO₃M, or a group represented by the following formula (II); n represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 8; and M represents a cation,



where n and M have the same meaning as defined above.

Claim 14. (Twice Amended) The ink-jet recording sheet according to claim 1, wherein the water resistant support is a polyolefin resin-coated paper.